



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 046124-5025-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
<b>Yukio KATO et al.</b>	)	
	)	
Application No.: <b>09/555,342</b>	)	Group Art Unit: <b>1642</b>
	)	
Filed: <b>May 26, 2000</b>	)	Examiner: <b>Minh-Tam Davis</b>
	)	
For: <b>HUMAN FETUS CHONDROCYTE-</b>	)	
<b>DERIVED GENE</b>	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
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Sir:

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION  
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.111**

This Reply is responsive to the Office Action dated August 26, 2003, the time period for response to which expired November 26, 2003. An extension of time for three months is being filed concurrently, thereby extending the period for response to February 26, 2004. Entry of the following amendments, remarks and reconsideration of the claimed subject matter is respectfully requested: